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VETERINARY WORK IN THE BULGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

P. M. Svintsov

The Bullarian People's Republic is successfully executing the Five-Year Plan for economic development, which runs from 1949 to 1953. According to this plan no less than 62.5 percent of the land area is to be in the socialist sector by the end of the Five-Year Plan. The number of large horned cattle is to rise by 25 percent over the 1939 level, while the number of swine will increase by 153 percent, and of fowl by 96 percent. The productivity of animal husbandry is also to increase; the figure for sheep will be 44 percent.

There has been energetic growth of agricultural installations in Bulgaria - the state farms (DZS) and the farm Workers! Cooperatives (TKZS).

The Georgi Dimitrov, and Vasil Kolarov state agricultural farms, the experimental swine-raising station in Knezha and the Slatina, Lydzhenskoye, [unidentified] and Kirillovskoye, [unidentified] Farm Workers' Cooperatives, and many others have done exemplary work in animal husbandry, and the Bulgarian People's Republic is justly proud of them.

On the state and cooperative animal husbandry farms extensive housing is being constructed for the animals, sometimes even with superfluous luxuries.

The Bulgarian Communist Party and the People's Government are devoting great attention to the development of animal husbandry and to the veterinary activity of the country.

Bulgaria has a large veterinary organization. In contrast to medical doctors, who until recently operated their own private practice, the veterinary doctors of Bulgaria are in the service of the state.

The jurisdiction of the Bulgarian veterinary organization, in addition to special questions, also includes problems such as the sanitary control of milk, meat, and other food products, such as cheese, sausage, preserved food, eggs, and fish.

Veterinary specialists take an active part in the construction and operation of slaughterhouses and refrigerating plants, and of enterprises engaged in commerce in meat and milk products, fish, etc.

Artificial insemination measures which are of enormous importance in Bulgaria for improving animal husbandry, are also carried out by veterinary specialists.

Agronomists do zootechnical work. A zootechnical school was opened in the last few years. It is expected that the first zootechnicians will be graduated soon.

The veterinary organization under the Ministry of Agriculture exists in the form of a separate directorate, independent of other organizations, called "Veterinary Activity". It is headed by Professor Ivan Kalopov.

Two periodicals are published in Bulgaria dealing with veterinary problems. These are <u>Veterinarna sbirka</u> (Veterinary Symposium), and <u>Zhivotnovodstvo i veterinarno delo</u> (Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Activity). Ten issues of these periodicals are published annually. In addition the central institutes

publish their work in the form of symposiums and reports.

Veterinary specialists in Bulgaria show enormous interest in the Soviet Union and in the organization of veterinary activity in that country. There is no veterinary establishment which does not have the Soviet periodical Veterinariya (Veterinary Medicine), nor a single veterinary doctor who does not read it. In addition each doctor has Soviet books on various veterinary subjects and on political and other questions. Bulgarian doctors and students on political and other questions. Bulgarian doctors and students easily master the mussian language and show a desire to have great quantities of Soviet literature in their special fields. The need for Soviet textbooks in veterinary medicine from which the students of the veterinary college can study is particularly strongly felt.

The VASKHNIL meeting, devoted to problems of Michurin biology, and the meetings of the Academy of Sciences, USSR, and of the Academy of Medical Sciences, USSR, devoted to the studies of I. P. Academy of Medical Sciences, USSR, devoted to the studies of I. P. Pavlov, aroused lively interests and a fervent response among the veterinary specialists of Bulgaria. For the broad discussion of these questions special conferences were held in Sofiya and other cities. One of these conferences was discussed in detail in the periodical Veterinarna sbirka, No 1-4, 1949.

The Bulgarian veterinary organization, in both its scientific work and its practical work in the fight against infectious and noninfectious diseases of domestic animals, as well as in the fight to increase the productivity of animal husbandry, makes wide use of the rich experiences of the Soviet Union.

Throughout the country there is a well developed network of veterinary therapeutic centers and veterinary stations, housing

for which is being built under special programs.

Cadres of vet rinary doctors are being trained by the Veterinary School of the Sofia Agricultural Academy. The dean of the Veterinary School is Professor Ignat Emanuilov, and the Academy is headed by Veterinary Specialist Professor Ksenofont Ivanov. There is also an intermediate veterinary school (the Lovech School), and special schools for ironsmith instruction.

Scientific work in veterinary medicine is carried on by 18 establishments, including the following: the Veterinary School; the Central Bacteriological Institute in Sofia, directed by Doctor Iven Chenchev; the Central Institute for the Hygiene and Control of An mal Husbandry Production, in Sofia, directed by Doctor Mirno Iordanov; the Institute for the Study of Internal (Moninfectious) Diseases, in Sofia, directed by Doctor Petr Prodanov; the Institute for the Study of Reproductive Diseases and for Artificial Insemination of Domestic Animals, in Sofia, directed by Doctor Kirill Bratanov; the Microbiological Institute of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, in Sofia, directed by Academician St. Angelov; the Institute of Pathology of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, in Sofia directed by Academician Ksenofont Ivanov; the Institute for the Production of Vaccines and Serums, in Sofia, directed by Doctor Tsv. Tomov; the Veterinary Institute for Combatting Plague, in Sofia, directed by Doctor Draganov; the Institute for Research and Production in the Fight against Swine Diseases, in the City of Vratsa; in addition to eight regional veterinary institutes and stations which are branches of the central institutes.

At these establishments there are many outstanding specialists, including the Dimitrov Prize winners Angelov, Ivanov, Chenchev, and others. The basic questions studied at these establishments are the fight against infectious and noninfectious diseases, against sterility, and for a better organization of sanitary supervision of raw and processed animal products.

The majority of the scientific establishments also carry on diagnostic work, and for this reason are concerned with the production of various biological preparations. In this way they assure supplies for the nation, including vaccines and serums against swine plague, the production of which is to be increased.

The establishments which produce biological preparations include the Institute in Sofia and the Institute in Vratsa; these are located in special buildings which correspond to their activities.

Inspection of the biological preparations is accomplished by a special control section of the Central Bacteriological Institute. The workers of this Institute /illegible verb/ on the spot, when needed. The production centers have no controllers of their own.

Among infectious diseases, horse glanders and sheep smallpox have been wiped out as epizootics, while hydrophobia has been sharply reduced. Fowl plague, which ravaged the country for a number of years is at present, thanks to the measures which have been taken, reported only in individual cases, and there is reason to expect that it will be completely eliminated in the near future. In Bulgaria equine infectious anemia and sheep brucellosis are not reported at all, in spite of the great development of sheep-raising.

At present the veterinary organization of Bulgaria is devoting considerable attention to prophylaxis and to the fight against infectious diseases. This work derives its significance from the

need to supply the TKZS and the DZS with only healthy animals; this is often made more difficult when animals are supplied from random, uninspected sources.

The Bulgarian veterinary organization recognizes the shortcomings in its work on the development of animal husbandry, and is fighting to eliminate them. In particular, the antiquated vet ranary laws of the country are being examined, since they do not reflect the needs of developing socialist animal husbandry.

Quarantine housing and isolators are being organized in order to protect the TKZS and the DZS from the entry and spread of infectious diseases.

Through the veterinary organization all measures are being taken to study the epizootic situation in infections such as brucellosis, tuberculosis, and others, and to conduct a planned fight against them. Much attention is being given to the increased training of medium and highly-skilled veterinary specialists, and to improving the training of lower-level animal husbandry and veterinary cadres.

In conclusion it should be pointed outthat the Bulgarian veterinarian organization has all the requirements necessary to meet the tasks assigned to it in the further growth and strengthening of Bulgarian animal husbandry.